Thank You My God

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Chapter 1

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Our Father, which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done in earth,

As it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

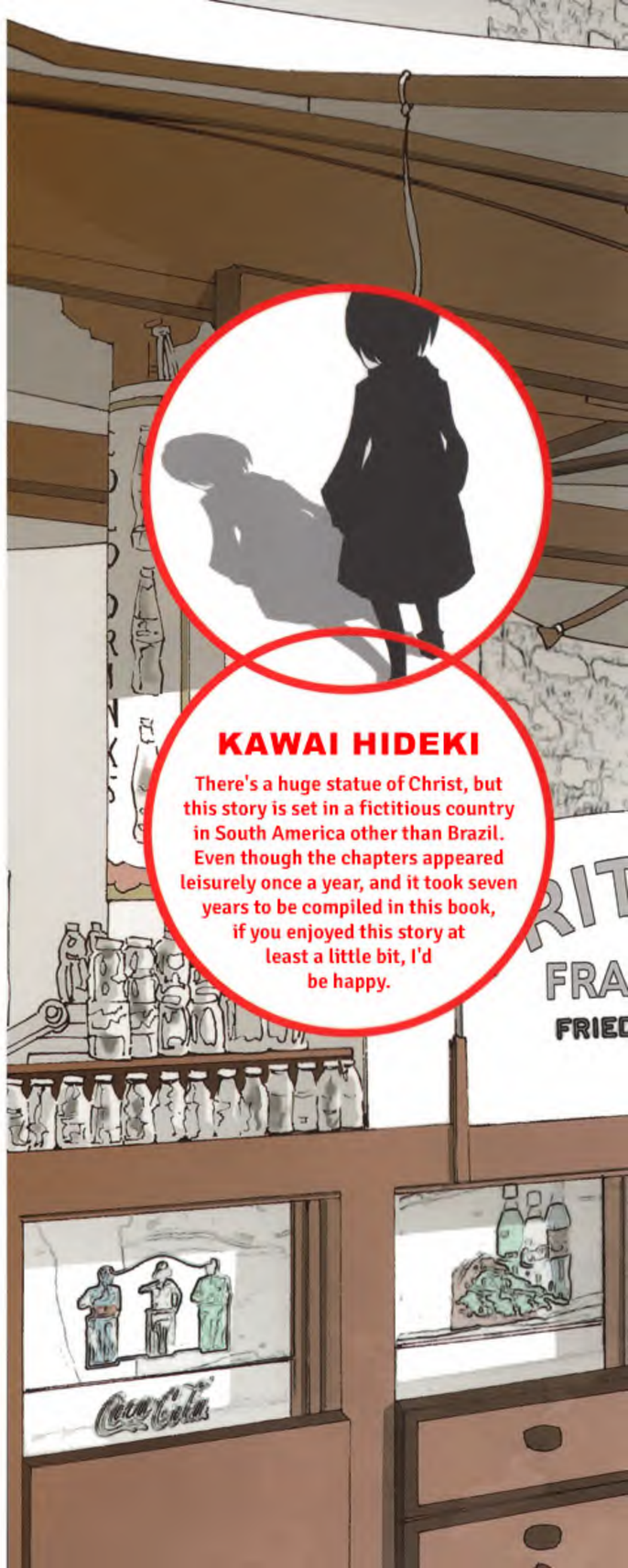
But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

The power, and the glory,

For ever and ever.

Amen.



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Chapter 2 — OPERA vol. 14 "Family" / 2009.04 — 039

Chapter 3 — OPERA vol. 20 "Couples" / 2010.04 — 065

Chapter 4 — OPERA vol. 26 "Tears" / 2011.04 — 099

Chapter 5 — OPERA vol. 32 "Jealousy" / 2012.04 — 127

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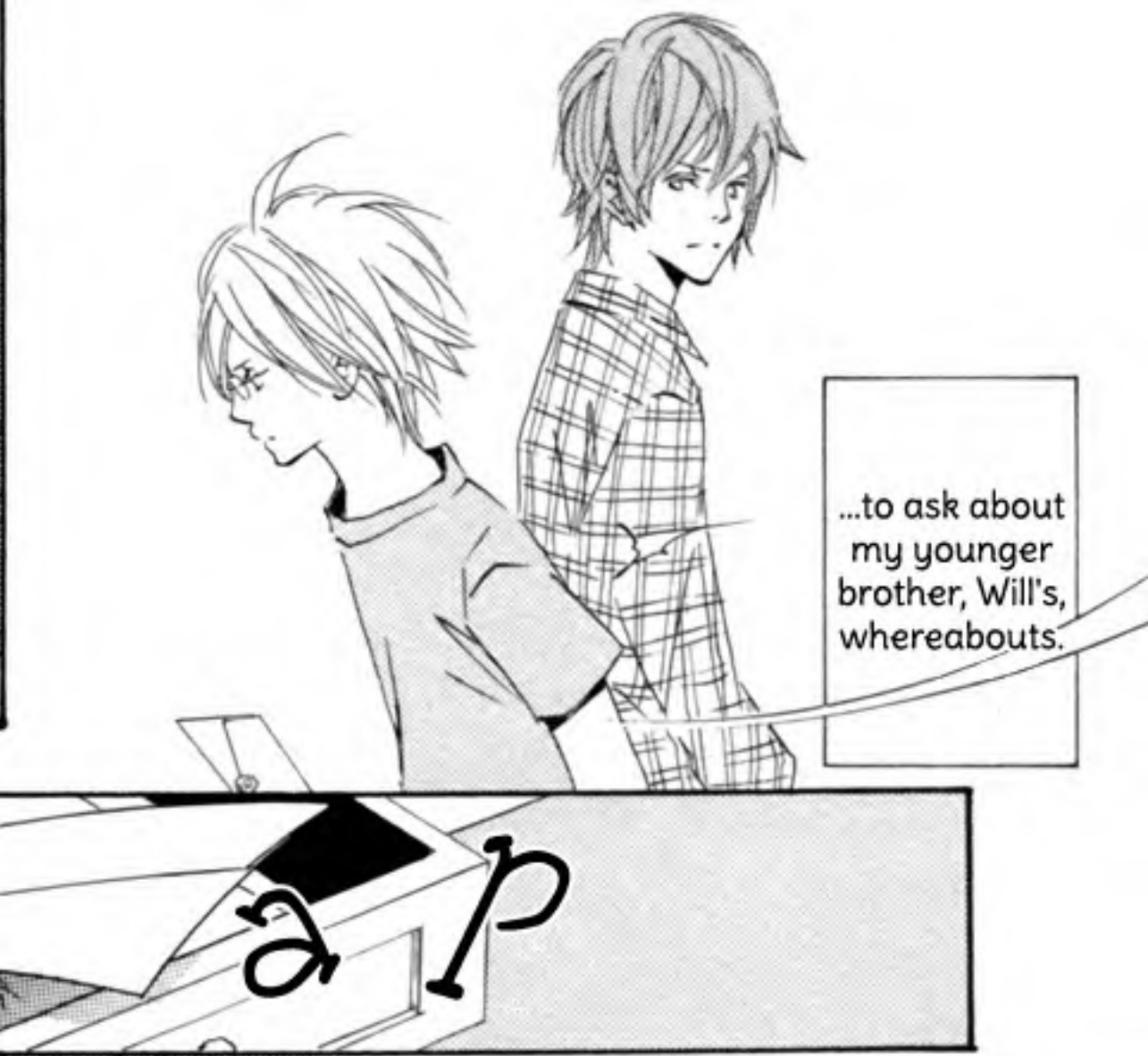
Chapter Final — OPERA vol. 44 "Love" / 2014.04 — 183

PRESENTED BY HIDEKI KAWAI

Thank you my God

knock
knock
open
TODAY'S MAIL.
YO, NICO.
YES.
knock
knock
THEY'VE BEEN COMING HERE EVERY DAY RECENTLY...
GOOD MORNING, MR. SIFONTES.
HEY, NICO!
"My dearest Nicola, how have you been?"
ARE THEY FROM A LOVER?
The first letter I received from my mom was...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THEN, SEE YOU LATER.
It's been 3 years since I left home...
...
IF ONLY I HAD ONE.
HAHA, IS THAT SO?

clatter


...to ask about my younger brother, Will's, whereabouts.
flap

...
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO READ IT?
clack

I KNOW WHAT IT SAYS.
WHO IS IT FROM?

IT'S A DEMAND NOTICE OF A LOAN.
3 years ago...
LESS IS

...
IS IT REALLY FROM A LOVER?

I can see God from my window. Just with that, I thought I'd be happy.
...I threw away everything, my father, mother, younger brother, and ran away to this city.
Chapter 1

BUT IT REALLY IS HUGE...!

You know, I saw pictures in the guide-book...

WILL... YOU'RE WAY TOO EXCITED.

IT'S FINE.

The brother I hadn't seen for 3 years didn't say anything.

Only that he'd come to sightsee.

Ahaha!

IN HERE IT SAYS YOU CAN CLIMB TO THE TOP FROM THE INSIDE... IS IT TRUE?

Right, right...

60 meters tall... It was built imitating the Christ in Rio, huh?

It's larger than Rio's, too.

I WON'T GO UP.

...

NOT EVEN ONCE?

NICO, YOU CAME TO THIS TOWN AND DIDN'T CLIMB IT?

FOR REAL?

I SAID I DON'T WANT TO...

Ehhh?

Let's go!

Haha!

SHUT UP! BE QUIET!

How many hundreds of steps do you think those stairs have?!

AH, SO I WAS RIGHT.

WASN'T IT THAT YOU STOPPED MIDWAY 'CAUSE YOU WERE WORN OUT OR SOMETHING?

IF YOU GET TIRED,

I'LL CARRY YOU TO THE TOP.

DON'T WORRY.

That's why I said **IF** you get tired.

I WON'T GET TIRED.

"WHY..."

'KAY?

HE'S CHEERFUL AND KIND.

I THOUGHT IT WAS NATURAL FOR MOTHER TO DOTE ON WILL.

WHENEVER I'M IN FRONT OF WILL, THAT'S THE FEELING I GET.

"WHY AM I THIS UGLY, I WONDER."

JUST GO ON... BY... YOURSELF...

ENOUGH.

haa

haa

haa

haa

Why?

I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY NORMAL.

NOT BEING LOVED BY HER,

C'mon, Nico!

Just a bit more, keep it up!

haa

haa

"Intellectual type..." Well, I am bad at studying, after all.

I'M THE... INTELLECTUAL TYPE!

I...

haa

haa

haa

haa

haa

haa

DON'T HAVE THAT CRAZY STAMINA OF YOURS...

NO CHOICE, HUH?

HUH?

...

HUH?

Yeah, I do.

ENOUGH! LET ME DOWN!

IDIOT...! THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN!

You're about the same build as me.

UP WE GO.

IDI-

DIDN'T I SAY I'D "CARRY" YOU IF YOU GOT TIRED?

IDIOT, PUT ME DOWN...!

YOU PLAN ON GETTING TO THE TOP LIKE THIS?!

I'LL SHOW YOU THAT I DEFINITELY CAN.

STUB-BORN BRAT...

haa

haa

haa

haa

step

step

haa

haa

haa

tap

tap

...

WHERE... DID THIS... COME FROM?

haa

haa

haa

THAT'S SO KIND OF HIM.

SO THERE'S A PEDDLER INSIDE GOD'S HEAD...

You're telling me he climbs here carrying all that...?

AN OLD PEDDLER!

Icy cold drinks here!

haa

haa

haa

haa

haa

haa

ARE YOU EATING PROPERLY...?

HM?

NICO, YOU...

haa

haa

haa

WHY?

NICO'S...

I totally made it here, right?

I lose to the old guy, though.

Which means-

Still,

LIKE YOU'RE THE ONE TO TALK, LOOKING AT YOU NOW...

...BLOND HAIR, SO BRIGHT IN THE SUN, HOW BEAUTIFUL.

BECAUSE YOU'RE SO THIN, AND TOTALLY LIGHT, TOO.

haa

haa

Like carrying a spirit!

Ahaha!

GOT A LITTLE BIGGER THAN BEFORE.

...

MY BODY WEIGHT HASN'T CHANGED.

YOU JUST...

THAT'S YOUR PERSONAL OPINION, NOT AN OBJECTIVE ONE.

BUT NICO, IF I'M NOT WRONG, YOU CAN'T COOK AT ALL, RIGHT?

As I thought, isn't it that you're just as light as a feather?

I'M...

...WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

THE PERSON RUNNING IT, ELI, MAKES A DAILY SPECIAL MENU.

A SHOP NEARBY?

Don't you get tired of it?

EVERY DAY?!

...GO TO EAT AT A SHOP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

I REGULARLY...

THIS GOD... IS FACING THE NORTHEAST, HUH...?

ELI? ELLIE?

...IS IT A WOMAN?

AH,

NORMALLY, IT SHOULD BE FACING SOME SACRED PLACE... DON'T YOU THINK?
FROM HERE...
DO YOU MISS IT?
THAT'S THE DIRECTION OF OUR NATIVE COUNTRY.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD SEE IT.
THE SCENT OF STEW THAT SPREADS THROUGH THE EVENING.
I WONDER IF WE COULD SEE OUR HOME...
NO WAY YOU COULD!
"TODAY'S DINNER IS STEW!"
EVEN WHEN THE GROUND CONTINUES, THE SKY STRETCHES ON FAR LONGER...!
JUST SAYING IT'S FAR AWAY...
...MAKES MY HOMETOWN BEAUTIFUL.
...
MOM'S SAYING, "WELCOME BACK!"
THE TINY LIGHT IN THE HOUSE ON TOP OF THE HILL.
HOW MANY COUNTRIES AWAY DO YOU THINK THAT HOUSE IS?
CROSSING THE FIELDS AND OVER THE HILL...
AH,

ARE THE FARAWAY "BRIGHT HILLS" I LONG FOR.

I WON'T GO BACK.

YOU, TOO...

...HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING BACK?

DO YOU...

...

...DIDN'T YOU COME TO BRING ME BACK WITH YOU?

...MISSED YOU.

I JUST...

I ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE YOU.

...

THERE'S NO GIRLS I LIKE.

squeeze

DO IT TO A GIRL YOU LIKE OR SOMETHING.

THAT...

...KINDA THING...

HE-

HEY THERE...

I LIKE YOU.

THERE'S NOBODY.

I ONLY HAVE YOU, NICO.

SOR-RY...

I WAS ONLY JOKING.

WILL...

I REALLY LIKE YOU.

HEY, WELCOME NICO.

TABERNA EL SOL

clang

...

CREAM-BOILED CHICKEN AND BUTTER-RICE. LEAVE OUT THE SAUERKRAUT.

IT'S RARE THAT YOU'RE NOT ALONE.

...A FRIEND?

PLEASE WAIT A LITTLE WHILE.

ruffle

YEAH, YEAH. GOT IT.

...

Every single day, it's only chicken. Are you a hungry crow or something?

AH... THEN I'LL ORDER THE SAME.

WHAT ABOUT ORDERING SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR A CHANGE?

WILL.

So you're not eating well, after all.

MOREOVER, WHAT DOES HE MEAN THE SAME ORDER EVERY DAY...?

IT'S FINE.

glug glug

...?

WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?

ELI LARRAZABAL!

I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE OUT THE SAUERKRAUT, DIDN'T I?!

SMOKED SALMON, SALAD, AND LAMB STEAK WITH SAUERKRAUT.

EH, YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT THAT?

Not cream, either!

NOT CHICKEN...

clank

Here, thanks for waiting.

WHAT A USELESS RESTAU-RANT!

Haha haha!

YOU NEVER BRING ME WHAT I REALLY ORDER.

ALWAYS WITH YOUR UNNECESSA-RY SERVICE.

It's free service, free!

AND I TELL YOU EVERY TIME THAT YOU DON'T NEED TO SPECIALLY PREPARE IT.

THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN TOWN WHO WON'T EAT IT.

HUH, BUT YOU LOOK GERMAN.

I'm not German!

INTRO-DUCE US!

WHO'S THE BOY?

HE'S NOT FROM HERE, RIGHT?

excited

excited

THAT ASIDE, NICO...

flop

What a cute couple!

I get it! Your lover. ♥

MY YOUNGER BROTHER.

silence

Aha haha!

YOU DON'T LOOK ALIKE AT ALL!

I'll give you 100 pesos, so would you shut up?

whine

whine

HEH...

...

...

Give me something better than 100 pesos.

COULD YOU...

...COULD YOU STOP TOUCHING MY- NICOLAS, ALREADY?

ENJOY.

MY MUSCLES ARE SORE...

This sucks...

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BED, GET IN ALREADY.

WILL,

WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?

WELL,

I WON'T STOP YOU IF YOU WANNA SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.

HUH...

BUT...

THERE'S NO EXTRA BED.

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO STAY HERE?

WILL... YOU...

HN...?

...

IT'S FINE FOR 2 OR 3 DAYS, BUT...

CAN'T I...

STAY FOR GOOD...?

I DID.

A SCAR ...?

DID YOU CLEARLY TELL MOM BEFORE YOU LEFT?

knock knock knock

NICO! ARE YOU HOME?

YOU DAMN LIAR.

HM...

THAT SO.

...?

WHO COULD IT BE AT THIS HOUR...

YES?

open

LET'S GO OUT-SIDE.

...?

...

glance

GOOD EVENING, NICO.

DO YOU HAVE A MI-NUTE?

AH,

SEÑORA LANDLADY...

GOOD EVENING.

DON'T COME.

I WONDER IF I CAN FIND A WELL-PAID PART-TIME JOB...

IT SEEMS THE RENT DOUBLES IF WE'RE BOTH STAYING.

She gave me an ear full.

THAT'S... WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOUR BROTHER WORK?

THE LANDLADY FOUND OUT MY BROTHER IS STAYING WITH ME.

Chicken again, huh?

CREAM-BOILED CHICKEN AND BUTTER-RICE.

Leave out the sauerkraut.

WHAT...?

DO YOU HAVE MONEY PRO-BLEMS?

I DON'T LIKE HIM.

sizzle

sizzle

Haha, instant answer, huh?

Ahaha!

You don't like your little bro-ther?

I DON'T WANT THE BOTH OF US TO LIVE TOGETHER.

IF I DO THAT, HE'LL REALLY END UP SETTLING DOWN HERE...

...

Push aside

clink

SCHNITZEL WITH SAUERKRAUT.

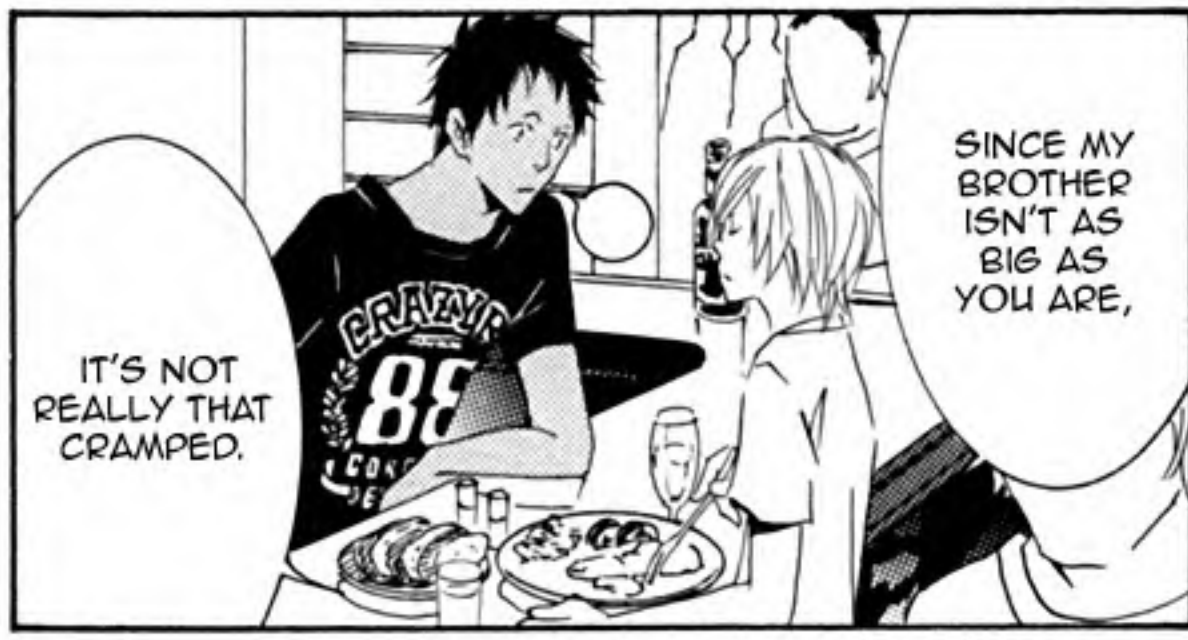
BUT...

I TELL YOU EVERY TIME TO LEAVE OUT THE SAUERKRAUT.

EAT YOUR VEGETABLES PROPERLY.

YOU'RE SLEEPING TOGETHER IN THAT CRAMPED BED OF YOURS, RIGHT?

...



IS THAT SO?

IT IS SO.

chatter

...

THE ONLY ONE THAT LOOKS AT ME THAT WAY IS YOU.

clang

ELI LARRA-ZABAL!

chatter

chatter

SMIRK

...

It's the hermanito.

FIRST OFF.

WHAT WAS IT, AGAIN...?

DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID THE MORNING AFTER WE ACTUALLY SLEPT TO-GETHER?

YOU SAID IT WAS UNEXPECTEDLY BORING. ***BORING. YOU SAID!***

HUM, I HAVE TO WONDER ABOUT THAT...

...

YOU WERE EXTREMELY CUTE.

WITH SUCH A DISHEVELED APPEAR-ANCE...

...

DID I SAY SUCH A THING...?

NO NO, HOW COULD THAT BE,

YOU DID. YOU CLEARLY, DISTINCTLY, AND TOTALLY SAID IT WITHOUT ANY HESITATION...!

ELI...

...

?

WHY?

YOU WERE A BIT FORCEFUL THAT TIME...

BEING ALL BY YOURSELF... IS LONELY, ISN'T IT?

CLATTER!

HEY, STOP THAT BOY, DAMMIT.

GAHH!

HEY, ELI, ARE YOU OKAY?

SOMEONE CALL THE POLICE!

WHAT'S GOING ON...?

WE'RE LEAVING NOW!

WILL, YOU... IDIOT!

!

HEY, YOU OKAY?

OH, IT HURTS.

AHH, I'M FINE, I'M FINE.

VANISH

Ah... Damn, he got me...!

YOU... DON'T BE SO RECKLESS.

NICO, DID YOU SLEEP WITH THAT GUY?

...

...

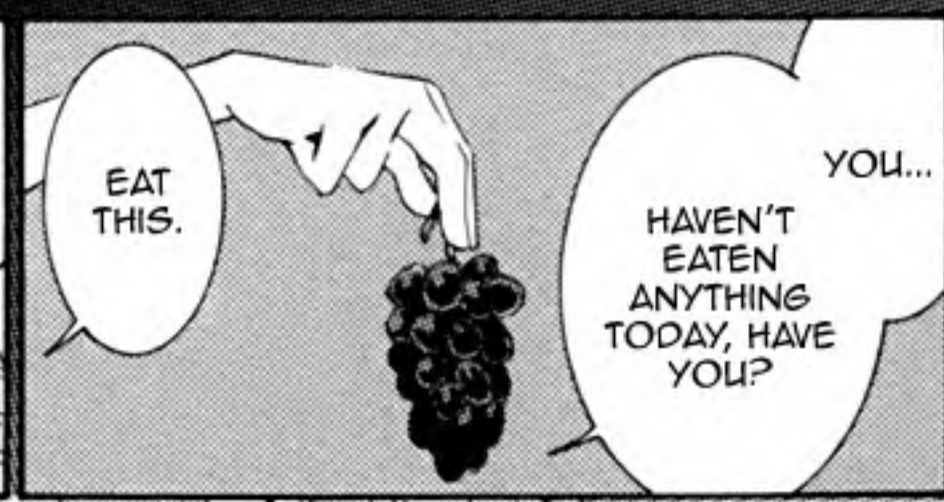
DO YOU... LIKE THAT MAN?

I DID.

THEN, WHY?!
...

NOT AT ALL.
WELL, I DON'T HATE HIM EITHER.

...
IT'S FINE, REALLY.


YOU... HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING TODAY, HAVE YOU?
EAT THIS.

WE JUST SLEPT TOGETHER ONCE, AND EVER SINCE MY MEALS ARE FREE.
AIN'T THAT PROFI-TABLE?
THAT'S...
...THAT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM SELLING YOURSELF!

JUST WHAT DID YOU LEAVE HOME FOR?!
FOR THIS KIND OF LIFE?
THAT'S IT...
...NICO, YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT THIS...

NICO, AREN'T YOU JUST IGNORING REALITY?
THAT KINDA GUY DECEIVED YOU, AND MADE YOU HIS TOY...

"BEING ALL BY YOURSELF.. IS LONELY, ISN'T IT?"

BECOMING THAT KINDA MAN'S PLAY-THING...

ONLY DECENT MEALS, AND A RUNDOWN HOUSE GOOD ENOUGH ONLY BECAUSE IT HAS A ROOF.

DAMN,

IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A JOB YOU WANNA DO, EITHER.

JUST WITH THAT,

EVEN IF THERE'S NO LOVE, SOME-TIMES YOU WANT TO GET CLOSE TO SOMEONE.

WAS THAT...

...VIOLATION?

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING...?!

...

ONE CAN KEEP ON LIVING.

I MEAN, MOM WOULD BE SHOCKED, TOO...

THE FACT THAT I SLEPT WITH ELI WON'T DISAPPEAR.

...WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

I DON'T HAVE ANY GOAL IN LIFE. I DON'T HAVE ANY INTENTION OF GOING BACK TO THAT HOUSE, EITHER.

YOU...

chuckle

I...

I...

JUST WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY.

...

I'LL ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF YOU.

THAT'S...

!

I'LL WORK VERY HARD SO YOU WON'T LACK ANYTHING...

NICO, IT'S FINE IF YOU ALWAYS STAY AT HOME.

I'LL WORK AND EARN MONEY.

"YOU ONLY" WHAT?!

THAT'S NOT IT! I ONLY-

I-

SO YOU MEAN TO CONFINE ME?!

NO!

NOT TO THAT MAN, NOR ANYONE ELSE...

I JUST LIKE YOU...

I WANNA BE BY YOUR SIDE. I DON'T WANT TO HAND YOU OVER TO ANYONE.

I... FOR YOU...

NICO,

WE'RE REAL BROTHERS, YOU KNOW?
...
THEN, ARE YOU GOING TO SLEEP WITH ME?
I CAN'T HELP IT.
BUT...
I LIKE YOU...
...
IDIOT!
COOL YOUR HEAD DOWN!
I LIKE YOU...
GO BACK ALREADY...
ENOUGH,
...

My beloved Nicola,
NICO...!
RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY...!
We're already resigned to the fact that you left home.
You haven't sent word to me yet.
how have you been?
...please, return Will to us.
But...
You seem to hate your home and I think you can live on your own just fine.
If that's the case... ...it's enough already, isn't it?
Do you resent us?
Are you taking revenge?
I don't know what on earth you could have told him to deceive him.
That boy's different from you. He's still a child.

OPEN UP!

PLEASE, OPEN UP...!

bam

bam

bam

bam

ELI...!

ELI LARRA-ZABAL...!

bam

bam

bam

bam

We're hurting so much.

If you still have a bit of love left,

kerchak

NICO?

ELI...!

I beg you. Please, return Will to us.

NICO...?

◆Chapter 1 / End◆

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